
DIGEST

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Chaney

HB No. 193

Abstract: Provides relative to rules and regulations for school nutrition programs.

Present law provides for school meal programs for students. Proposed law adds that BESE shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) nutrition programs and that the state Dept. of Education (DOE) shall implement the programs pursuant to such rules and regulations.

Present law provides that no state funds shall be disbursed for school lunch programs used by any private person or entity for profit, regardless of any authority in federal or state law for contracting with such a private entity. Proposed law excepts the Child and Adult Care Food Program as provided in BESE regulations.

Present law defines "school" as "any school wherein children between the ages of five and 17, both inclusive, are in attendance". Proposed law deletes present law.

Present law requires each parish school board and school principal to post in a prominent place the cost of lunches. Further requires all persons partaking of such lunches who are able to pay for the same to pay directly to the sponsor such posted cost. Provides that no student shall be requested to pay more than the actual cost of the lunch, less the amount of reimbursement paid to the sponsor from state and federal funds. Proposed law deletes present law.

Proposed law adds that USDA food programs administered by the state DOE are nutrition cost reimbursement programs and provides for several changes to terms or phrases when appropriate, including the following:

- (1) Replaces "school lunch program" with "nutrition program" and refers to "meals or snacks", "food", or "nutrition" rather than "lunch(es)".
- (2) Refers to a "governing authority of a public elementary and secondary school" or "governing authority of a nutrition program provider" instead of "school board".
- (3) Updates obsolete language by changing "state board of education" to BESE or the state DOE.
- (4) Refers to "individual(s)" instead of "child(ren)".

(5) Refers to a "nutrition program provider" instead of a "sponsor".

(Amends R.S. 17:191-197, 198, and 199)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Deletes present law definition of "school" as "any school wherein children between the ages of five and 17, both inclusive, are in attendance".
2. Deletes the following present law provisions:
 - (a) The requirement that each parish school board and school principal post in a prominent place the cost of lunches.
 - (b) The requirement that all persons partaking of such lunches who are able to pay for the same pay directly to the sponsor such posted cost.
 - (c) The provision that no students shall be requested to pay more than the actual cost of the lunch, less the amount of reimbursement paid to the sponsor from state and federal funds.
3. Deletes proposed law provision that the state, the state DOE, and BESE would not be held liable for any health and safety issues, personal injury, or injury to property resulting from the operation of nutrition cost reimbursement programs.
4. Makes technical changes.